

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS (ADDED DRAWINGS):**

A new Figure 2 has been added after Figure 1, and all drawings have been  
renumbered accordingly to match the renumbering in the above revisions to the  
5 specification. All drawing sheets 1-7 are attached.

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Here are applicant's detailed responses to the office action, in order of their appearance in the office action.

5 Paragraph 18 of the specification has been substantively amended to address examiner's 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection grounds. Rope 3 in the first, preferred, embodiment is replaced by separate ropes 24 and 25 in the second embodiment.

A new Figure 2 has been added showing the two ropes 24 and 25 of the second embodiment of the invention. Existing Figures 2-6 have been renumbered 3-7. All sheets  
10 have been renumbered 1/7 through 7/7 accordingly.

Claims 1 and 10 have been rewritten to incorporate the features of claims 4 and 13, respectively, to distinguish them from prior art cited by the examiner. Examiner indicated in the Office Action that claim 4 would have been allowable had it included all the elements of claims 1, 2, and 3. Including the end cap element of claim 4 in claim 1  
15 accomplishes the same purpose by distinguishing applicant's invention from Roberts, Jr. '504. Claim 4 has been cancelled. Claims 2 and 3, modifying now-allowable claim 1, should be allowable dependent claims.

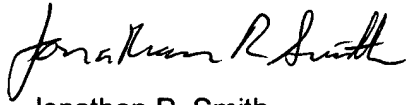
Claim 10 now also properly refers to elements in the amended specification. In a fashion similar to claim 1, claim 10 has been rewritten to incorporate the end cap  
20 element of claim 13, thus distinguishing applicant's invention from Geistlinger '334. Claim 13 has been cancelled. Claims 11 and 12, modifying now-allowable claim 10 should be allowable dependent claims.

Claims 1 and 10 should now be allowable as independent claims. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6, dependent from claim 1, should now be allowable. Claims 11, 12, 14, and 15,  
25 dependent from amended claim 10, should now be allowable. Applicant respectfully

requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case on all claims as amended.

Sincerely,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jonathan R. Smith".

Jonathan R. Smith

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